

April 2003

## New Draft Regulation for Wastewater Reuse

**State Water Control Board**  
**Draft Regulation for the Reuse of Reclaimed**  
**Wastewater – 9 VAC 25-740-10 et seq.**

A draft regulation has been developed by the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to “promote and encourage the reclamation and reuse of wastewater in a manner protective of the environment and public health.” The intent of this draft regulation is to promote and establish requirements for the reclamation and reuse of wastewater as an alternative to discharging pollutants into state waters. The current VPDES (for point source discharges) and VPA (no-discharge) regulations do not provide any specific technical standards for this type of operation. According to the DEQ, the draft regulation would provide technical standards that address various potential categories of reuse and should provide greater flexibility and less stringent requirements commensurate with the quality of the reclaimed wastewater and its intended use. The regulation would also provide a predictable and certain process for the approval or denial of requests for the reuse of reclaimed wastewater in Virginia.

Based on WEG’s review of the draft regulation, it appears that tertiary treatment high-level disinfection of wastewater would be required in order to irrigate golf courses, parks, and athletic fields, but public access would not be restricted. However, the draft regulation contains numerous requirements for irrigation use including signage or an approved alternate method of public notification, setback distances, storage requirements, monitoring, and preparation of a nutrient management plan and operation and maintenance

manual.

The proposed regulation would encompass the following six water reuse categories:

1. Land irrigation for agricultural, forest, and landscape use;
2. Groundwater recharge for certain purposes (e.g., saltwater intrusion control);
3. Industrial processes (e.g., cooling, boiler feed, stack scrubbing, and process water);
4. Non-potable urban (e.g., fire protection, street washing, and vehicle washing);
5. Environmental (e.g., stream flow augmentation /fishery sustainability); and,
6. Miscellaneous (e.g., snowmaking, dust control, and construction).

According to the draft regulation, facilities intent on using treated wastewater may not need a permit from the DEQ if the producer/supplier of the treated wastewater assumes responsibility to ensure that the reclaimed water is used in accordance with the regulation.

The public comment period for the draft regulation is open and will run until 4:00 pm April 25, 2003. If you have any questions concerning this draft regulation or would like to submit comments to WEG to present during the comment period, please contact the following WEG representatives:

Williamsburg: Toni Small  
tsmall@wegnet.com / (757) 220-6869

Richmond: Mike Kelly  
mkelly@wegnet.com / (804) 267-3474

Sterling: Loretta Cummings  
lcummings@wegnet.com / (703) 406-1390



**TECHNICAL UPDATE**

3000 Easter Circle  
Williamsburg, Virginia 23188  
Phone: (757) 220-6869  
Fax: (757) 229-4507  
Email: [cspangler@wegnet.com](mailto:cspangler@wegnet.com)

Branch Offices:  
46030 Manekin Plaza, Suite 160  
Sterling, Virginia 20166  
Phone: (703) 406-1390

7401 Beaufont Springs Drive, Suite 205  
Richmond, Virginia 23225  
Phone: (804) 267-3474